

### What is Youth Development?

The goal of youth development is to create a community environment that stimulates and supports youth as they grow into adults.

This can be done in a variety of ways. Some of them include:

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Providing a broad range of accessible activities for youth of all ages and capabilities

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Providing high quality education (public schooling, tutoring, private schooling, alternative schooling)

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Teaching youth life skills (how to balance a checkbook, how to prepare a balanced meal, how to create a household budget, career counseling, etc)

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Creating opportunities for youth to have a voice (ie providing student spots on school councils, inviting youth to town meetings and allowing them to speak, teaching youth how to speak at meetings)

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Providing healthy adult role models for youth

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Creating opportunities for youth to be healthy role models for other youth.

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**Some of the Youth Development Programs run by Bedford Youth and Family Services include:**

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JGMS After School Activities

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High School Peer Mentoring

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The Bedford Teen Website

designed by local teens for local teens.

Click on Buttons for more information